open to the general medical public as well as to students at the college, are as follows: March 28, Organization, Equipment and Training of Armies, by Lieutenant Colonel William S. Terriberry, Medical Corps, N. G. N. Y.; April 4, Organization of the Medical Department, and Its Service in Campaign, by Major Joseph H. Ford, Medical Corps, U. S. A.; April 11, Wounds in War, their Complications and Treatment, by Major Joseph H. Ford, Medical Corps, U. S. A.; April 18, The Personal Hygiene of the Soldier, by Major Sanford H. Wadhams, Medical Corps, U. S. A.; April 25, Camp Sanitation, by Captain Philip W. Huntington, Medical Corps, U. S. A.; May 2, Preventable Diseases in War, by Captain Philip W. Huntington, Medical Corps, U. S. A.

ALL medical classes at the university were omitted on Thursday, April 6. The day, which is known as "U. M. A. Day," and which belongs to the Undergraduate Medical Association, was devoted to the presentation of papers and exhibits of original research work by the undergraduates and to addresses by members of the medical profession. "U. M. A. Day" was founded in the fall of 1907 by Dr. John G. Clark for the purpose of encouraging among undergraduates original research along scientific lines.

AT a hearing on the Wheeler bill before the New Lork legislature, Dr. Max G. Schlapp stated according to the *Journal* of the American Medical Association, that a donor who did not wish his name divulged had offered $500,000 toward a psychopathic institution provided the Wheeler bill was passed by the legislature. This bill would create a state clearing house for the mentally deficient and would create a commission of seven with an executive manager to supervise the work of examining and diagnosing the cases of the mentally deficient and to investigate the causes of mental deficiency. No one opposed the bill.

THE Department of Experimental Breeding at the University of Wisconsin has recently occupied its new barn, constructed for the accommodation of the experimental herd, and fitted out with the most modern barn equipment. An attempt is being made by means of crossbreeding to obtain data on the inheritance of dairy and beef characteristics. The herd at present consists of nearly a dozen crossbred cattle of Jersey-Aberdeen Angus parentage, and one calf of the second generation.

ON the petition of Dr. J. Allen McLaughlin, state health commissioner, a bill has been introduced before the Massachusetts General Court which aims to prevent the sale or delivery of milk in any city or town without a permit from the local board of health after inspection of the facilities for producing and handling this food. It provides that the permit may contain reasonable conditions for the protection of the public health and may be revoked for failure to comply therewith. The bill has been referred by the Senate to the committee on agriculture and public health.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

HARVARD UNIVERSITY has received a bequest of $51,500 from the estate of J. Arthur Beebe, and one of $50,000, came from the estate of Mrs. William F. Matchett, the income of both to be used for general purposes.

DR. GEORGE E. VINCENT, president of the University of Minnesota, delivered the Annual Charter Day address in the open-air Greek Theater of the University of California on March 23. That afternoon the cornerstone was laid of the $730,000 white granite classroom building to be known, in honor of President Wheeler, as Benjamin Ide Wheeler Hall.

MR. F. W. BRADLEY, of San Francisco, has given $5,000 to the University of California for the purchase of additions to the geological and mining-arts collections of the university. A large number of exhibitors at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition have also contributed to the university's collections in these fields, among these donors being Japan, Norway, Sweden, Bolivia, United States Bureau of Mines, United States Geological Survey, the Transvaal Chamber of Mines,

Australia, Missouri, New York, California, Idaho, Anaconda Copper Company, the Utah Coal Operators' Association, the Tourmaline King Mine, the Union Oil Company, the Mascot Copper Company, the After-thought Mining Company, the Noble Electric Steel Company, the Bunker Hill and Sullivan Company, the Hockensmith Wheel and Mine Car Company, the Concordia Safety Lamp Company, the Chicago Pneumatic Tool Company and Mrs. Phoebe A. Hearst.

UPON the occasion of moving into its new quarters, the department of chemistry of the University of Illinois has issued a bulletin containing complete information of the courses given. The bulletin contains also a history of the department and pictures of the different buildings it has occupied during its growth. It contains also a list of the students registered in the chemistry courses and all alumni of the department. This bulletin will be of service on the occasion of the meeting of the American Chemical Society during the week of April 17 to 21.

A STATUTE which makes a certain amount of research a necessary qualification for the honor school of chemistry at Oxford, has been approved in congregation. The professor of chemistry, Mr. W. H. Perkin, said the main object of the scheme was to secure that every undergraduate who desired a class in chemistry must have had a year's training in the methods of research. As a result they would be able to engage in independent research and would be of more value to the country whether they ultimately adopted a teaching or an industrial career.

THE faculty of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of Columbia University, have unanimously voted in favor of the establishment of a dental department, to be connected with the medical school. A committee of prominent dentists of the city have presented plans to the medical faculty which have been approved. The course is to be four years.

AT Yale University, Dr. Rhoda Erdmann has been appointed lecturer in biology, for the year 1916–17, on the Sarah Berliner Foundation.

DR. FRANK BILLINGS, of Chicago, has been appointed visiting lecturer on medicine at Harvard University.

AT the University of Cambridge, Mr. S. W. Cole, of Trinity College, has been appointed university lecturer in medical chemistry, and Mr. C. S. Gibson, of Sidney Sussex College, assistant to the professor of chemistry.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

SEMINARY COURSES IN THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE

THE question of giving more attention to the history of science in the training of scientific men, which has already been raised in recent issues of SCIENCE, is one which should not be allowed to pass without some tangible result in the form of new courses within that little exploited field. As one who at biennial periods has conducted a seminary in the history of geology, I may perhaps be permitted to draw attention to some of the special benefits, to both teacher and pupils, which are likely to accrue from such courses.

Most important, perhaps, of the results obtained are the following: (1) A wider knowledge of the entire field of the science together with the intimate interrelations of its several parts; (2) a comprehension of what may be termed the psychology of hypothesis-making and its dependence upon the local environment of the maker, upon pure analogy, upon the scientific vogue of the period, or upon the dominating influence of leading minds; (3) a greater caution in setting up new theories upon small evidence through learning of the number and the variety of earlier theories and the relatively small number of them which have survived the test of time; (4) the valuable and often wholly unexpected side-lights which are thrown upon problems within a special field by discoveries made in other fields which were perhaps thought to be but little related.

Of these benefits I am inclined to think that much the most valuable is (2)—the realization that the scientists, as well of to-day as of yesterday, are not essentially different from their